

February 4, 2010

RE: Stream Flow Standards

Emailed: paul.stacey@ct.gov <paul.stacey@ct.gov>

Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse
Planning & Standards Division
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106-5127
Attention: Mr. Paul E. Stacey

Dear Mr. Stacey:

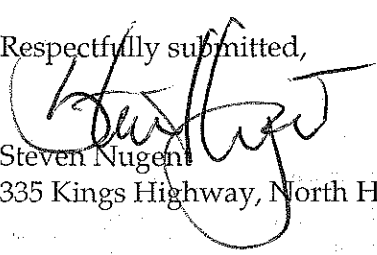
The water quality of the Quinnipiac River, as with many Connecticut rivers, has improved; and if allowed, will continue to improve. Please do not classify the Quinnipiac River as "Class 4", thereby removing all protection of this watercourse.

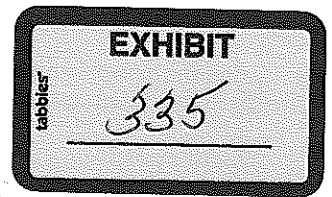
Numerous Towns and stakeholders are no longer turning their back on the Quinnipiac River. Inland Wetland Commissions are increasing regulated buffers around wetlands and watercourses. Non-profits are creating public ways adjacent to the river. Stakeholders are investing alongside the river due to its improving recreational value. Surely those needs, the need for drinkable water, along with preservation of fish and wildlife, far outweigh the needs of manufacturing.

The thought that the DEP would allow industry, utilities, etc, to degrade this river is archaic. Has public opinion or regulators regressed to the mentality of the 1950's or even further back to the industrial age? Let's hope not for the sake of water quality.

I also suggest that the DEP standards developed to "balance the human needs *with* fish and wildlife" are misguided. The varied needs of humans should be weighed and balanced before pitting them against fish & wildlife. The quality of water required by the varied human needs is too dissimilar to categorize as one.

Respectfully submitted,


Steven Nugent
335 Kings Highway, North Haven, CT 06473



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